



Michigan
Office of the Auditor General
REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

*Homeland Security and Emergency
Management*

*Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
and Michigan Department of State Police*

Report Number:
55-125-04

Released:
June 2005

Michigan's homeland security efforts are primarily the responsibility of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) and the Michigan Department of State Police (MSP) and are predominately directed toward providing training and facilitating equipment acquisitions for first responders. MSP's Emergency Management Division coordinates the emergency management activities of federal, State, county, and municipal governments.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of DMVA's and MSP's efforts in facilitating homeland security funding and acquisitions for State agencies and local jurisdictions.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that DMVA's and MSP's efforts in facilitating homeland security funding and acquisitions were generally effective.

Reportable Condition:

DMVA and MSP should seek modification of the State's procurement procedures to expedite the acquisition process for homeland security-related equipment (Finding 1).

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

During our audit period, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recognized Michigan's initiative to encourage public school administrators around the State to assess their school buildings' state of emergency preparedness as a homeland security best practice. The

initiative, which began in October 2003, is funded by an \$8.2 million grant from DHS that provides funding to school districts that assess their state of emergency preparedness and response capabilities. As of October 8, 2004, MSP had signed grant agreements with 571 school districts for 3,434 school buildings, or about 94% of all eligible buildings.

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Audit Objective:

To assess MSP's efforts in evaluating the effectiveness of training, disaster management services, and homeland security plans developed by State agencies and local jurisdictions.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that MSP's efforts in evaluating the effectiveness of training, disaster management services, and homeland security plans developed by State agencies and local jurisdictions were generally effective. Our report does not include any reportable conditions related to this audit objective.

Noteworthy Accomplishments:

During our audit period, the MSP Emergency Management Division won the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) 2004 Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Information Technology in the category of Security and Business Continuity for the Critical Incident Management System (CIMS). This category encompasses information technology security projects as well as business continuity initiatives as they relate to disaster recovery, business recovery, business resumption, contingency planning, homeland security, bio-terrorism, and health alerts. CIMS is used by all State agencies during emergency preparedness, response and recovery, and

mitigation of threat activities. By electronically tracking incidents, activity logs, and other important information, paper intensive processes were eliminated and multiple areas of government are able to see all relevant information as needed without sifting through stacks of paper and folders. The significance of this improvement is that it allows decision-making and appropriate response actions to be more effective and efficient.

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 1 finding and 1 corresponding recommendation. The agency preliminary response indicated that DMVA and MSP agreed with the recommendation.

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<http://audgen.michigan.gov>



Michigan Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Thomas H. McTavish, C.P.A.
Auditor General

Scott M. Strong, C.P.A., C.I.A.
Deputy Auditor General